Response to Office Action mailed March 5, 2008

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown below.

(Currently Amended) A method <u>for linking at least one receivables with a collateral</u> agreement on a computer system comprising:

providing a first data structure object representing a receivable, the receivable being unlinked to a second data structure object representing a collateral agreement;

applying criteria <u>specified in a global declaration of purpose to the receivable</u> for determining whether to link [[a]] the receivable to [[a]]the_collateral agreement; and

if [[a]] the receivable meets the criteria, automatically forming a <u>direct link</u> between the <u>first data structure object representing the receivable</u> and the second data structure object representing the collateral agreement.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria include an identity of a party to the collateral agreement.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria include a type of the at least one receivables.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria are applied pursuant to the processing of a new or existing the at least one receivables.
- (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the criteria are applied pursuant to the processing of a new or existing collateral agreement.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the link is formed between the receivable and a portion of the collateral agreement.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the link is formed between a component of the receivable and the collateral agreement.

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(Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the link is formed between a component of the receivable and a portion of the collateral agreement.

- 9. (Canceled).
- 10. (Canceled).
- 11. (Canceled).
- 12. (Canceled).
- ${\bf 13.\ (Currently\ Amended)\ A\ machine-readable\ medium\ storing\ data\ structures\ comprising:}$
 - a collateral agreement;
 - a receivable: and
- a <u>direct</u> link between the collateral agreement and [[a]] <u>the</u> receivable secured by the collateral agreement, wherein the <u>direct</u> link is formed automatically in accordance with criteria of a global declaration of purpose associated with the collateral agreement.
- 14. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the collateral agreement comprises a plurality of portions.
- 15. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein each of the portions has assigned thereto a value that is a part of a total value of the collateral agreement.
- 16. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein each of the portions has associated therewith distinct criteria for forming a link between a respective portion and a receivable secured by the collateral agreement.
- 17. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein each portion has a priority.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the <u>direct</u> link is formed between the receivable and a portion of the collateral agreement.

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19. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the <u>direct</u> link is formed between a component of the receivable and the collateral agreement.

20. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the <u>direct link</u> is formed between a component of the receivable and a portion of the collateral agreement.

21. (Original) A method comprising:

initiating a request for information concerning a collateral agreement or a receivable; and

based on the request, reading linkage information that maps collateral agreements to respective receivables.

- 22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the collateral agreement comprises portions each having assigned thereto a value that is a part of a total value of the collateral agreement.
- 23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the linkage information maps the portions to respective receivables.
- 24. (Original) A machine-readable medium comprising instructions to perform a process comprising:

initiating a request for information concerning a collateral agreement or a receivable; and

based on the request, reading linkage information that maps collateral agreements to respective receivables.

- 25. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the collateral agreement comprises portions each having assigned thereto a value that is a part of a total value of the collateral agreement.
- 26. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein the linkage information maps the portions to respective receivables.

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27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the collateral agreement comprises a plurality of portions.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the portions has assigned thereto a value that is a part of a total value of the collateral agreement.